

Nutrition Program for the Elderly/Area Agencies on Aging (NPE/AAA) – NPE/AAA provides nutritious meals for older adults either in congregate meal settings or through home delivery. The Department of Health and Human Services through State and local Agencies on Aging administers this Program. USDA involvement is limited to providing cash and commodities to State Agencies on Aging and Indian tribal organizations.

Disaster Feeding -- FNS makes commodities available for distribution to disaster relief agencies, such as the Red Cross, when the President of the United States declares a disaster, as well as in other situations of distress. The commodities are provided to disaster victims through congregate meal service and direct distributions to households.

**U.S. Department of Agriculture
Food and Nutrition Service
Food Distribution Division
3101 Park Center Drive
Alexandria, VA 22302
(703) 305-2888**

FOR MORE INFORMATION

If you believe that you are eligible to participate in any of these programs or would like more information, please contact the FNS regional office for your State listed here:

Northeast Regional Office

Phone: (617) 565-6426 (*Connecticut, Maine, Vermont, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New York, Rhode Island*)

Mid-Atlantic Regional Office

Phone: (609) 259-5050 (*Delaware, District of Columbia, Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Virginia, West Virginia, Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands*)

Southeast Regional Office

Phone: (404) 562-7050 (*Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee*)

Midwest Regional Office

Phone: (312) 353-6673 (*Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, Wisconsin*)

Mountain Plains Regional Office

Phone: (303) 844-0366 (*Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming*)

Southwest Regional Office

Phone: (214) 290-9814 (*Arkansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas*)

Western Regional Office

Phone: (415) 705-2229 (*Alaska, American Samoa, Arizona, California, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Trust Territory, Washington*)

USDA food distribution programs are open to all eligible persons regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. To file a complaint, write to the Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

**Commodity
Assistance
through
USDA
Food
Distribution
Programs**

What is the Purpose of the Food Distribution Programs?

A major responsibility of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) is providing nutritious foods to our nation's children and needy adults while at the same time strengthening American agriculture. USDA purchases commodities to remove surpluses from the marketplace and delivers them through the food distribution programs to State agencies. These agencies, in turn, provide them to schools and other outlets.

What Programs Receive USDA Commodities?

National School Lunch and Breakfast Programs -- FNS coordinates the distribution of commodity foods to over 94,000 public and private nonprofit schools that provide meals to students. USDA commodity purchases represent about 15-20 percent of the market value of the food schools serve in their lunch and breakfast programs.

Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) -- Commodities are available to sites that serve needy children during summer vacations from school. These

sites include schools, colleges and universities participating in the National Youth Sports Program, nonprofit summer camps for migrant children, and centers for homeless children. All children receive meals free, and USDA reimburses local sponsoring organizations for a portion of the meals served.

The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) -- Commodities are available to nonprofit organizations such as soup kitchens and shelters to use in preparing meals for the needy. Other nonprofit organizations, such as food banks, distribute commodities to the needy for household use. Each State establishes eligibility criteria for determining participation in the program.

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) -- FDPIR is an alternative to the Food Stamp Program for meeting the nutritional needs of Native American households living on or near an Indian reservation or who live in designated service areas in Oklahoma. Households qualify for the program based on their income and resources. Participants receive a monthly food package that

contains a variety of commodities to help them maintain a balanced diet.

Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) -- Through the CSFP, food packages are distributed monthly to supplement the nutritional needs of low-income, pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women, infants, children up to age 6, and persons at least 60 years old residing in the service areas. A variety of USDA commodities is provided in household-size containers. Women, infants, and children must be eligible for benefits under an existing federal, state, or local health or welfare program for low-income persons. Elderly persons must have incomes at or below 130 percent of federal poverty income guidelines.

Child and Adult Care Food Program (CACFP) -- Commodities are available to approved day care centers that serve meals and snacks to children and adults, and family and group day care homes for children. These centers and homes have the option of receiving cash in lieu of commodities since the commodity pack sizes are too large for most of them.